

@Priya ,

Dear, it's you brainwashed Hindus who bring a bad name to Indian Muslims and India thanks to your superstitious beliefs and fanatical adherence to your faith - a faith about which you people know nothing. Your comment is filled with propaganda and lies, I don't know where to start with revealing facts. By the way, it is the same Hindus who have demonised Indian Muslims for decades if not centuries. You don't trust me, right? How about reading few works of unbiased and even secular academics (I hope you don't label them to be pseudo-secular as most Hindu fanatics do) and hearing to their opinions? Meera Nanda, the renowned historian of science and an author anecdotally writes about her experience with her old Hindu friend:

"[...] there was a conversation with an old school friend. He lives in a posh high-rise apartment block in Mumbai. I happened to mention that a Dalit-Muslim couple I knew were practically homeless because no one would rent them an apartment in the great metropolis of Mumbai. Suddenly an aspect of my friend's personality came to the surface that I did not know existed. With great passion and vehemence he defended why Muslims should not be allowed to rent or buy in 'Hindu areas': they are dirty, violent, meat-eating people and have no business living with good people like himself. I later discovered that my friend was quite sympathetic to Hindutva causes, and spent his spare time trawling [...] anti-Islamic websites." [1]

Similarly, Janet M. Powers writes about her experience in India with Hindu-women leaders from Indian Hindu organisations like Rashtra Sevika Samiti,

"All Samiti women are taught to regard Muslim men as rapists, rioters, and murderers, and the Muslim religion in general is understood to be degrading to women." [2]

I can go on quoting academics after academics proving that Hindus and their dharmic and yogic leaders are the major source of Islamophobia in India and that they've demonised Muslims and Islam to the fullest. You talk of being secular, but how secular are Hindus? Hindu-fanatics try to equate Hindu-religion(s) to secularism to fool the gullible masses but do academics and scholars agree? Klaus K. Klostermaier another renowned German scholar on "Hinduism" is right in his observation that self-conscious Hindus were never happy with India being declared a secular state,

"Self-conscious Hindus were never happy with secularism and they still consider it 'un-Indian' and anti-Hindu." [3]

Forget religious-secularism, even political secularism is despised and abhorred by Hindus. Hindus want a Ram-rajya, a Hindu-state not a politically democratic and secular republic! This hypocrisy will not work in front of Indian Muslims - who know in and out of your tactics and schemes. Indian Muslims believe in political-secularism and not religious secularism - you need to learn the difference between them. But Hindus despite having a Hindu-majoritarian state still want a Hindu-rashtra (Hindu fascist state). In-fact, a Union minister and member of Parliament Mr. Anantkumar Hegde (a Hindu) says,

"Those who are unaware of their parentage are the ones who call themselves secularists," [4]

You are bastard if you are secularist, according to Hindu statesmen and politicians. What about Hindu-gurus? Swami Prabhupada, the founder of ISKCON or famously known as "hare-krishna" movement writes,

"It is the duty of the king not to tolerate the introduction of any irreligious systems. Since King Prthu was an incarnation of the Supreme Personality of Godhead, certainly his duty was to cut down all kinds of irreligious systems. Following in his footsteps, all heads of state should themselves be bona fide representatives of God and should cut down all irreligious systems. Unfortunately, they are cowards who declare a secular state. Such a mentality is a way of compromising religious and irreligious systems, but

because of this citizens are generally becoming uninterested in spiritual advancement. Thus the situation deteriorates to such an extent that human society becomes hellish." [5]

Prabhupada also states,

"They complacently feel that the state is secular. In such a government, no one can be happy." [6]

Those who declare the state to be "secular" are cowards, and irreligious systems (like Islam, Christianity, et cetera) should not be tolerated says the renowned Hindu-guru. I can quote a dozen more Hindu-scholars, gurus and politicians stating the same more or less.

Your rant of multiculturalism is so ridiculous. You can fool @visualpoet but not Indian Muslims. You say that "Christmas, Diwali, Holi which is part of the culture" you forgot Eid! Isn't Eid a part of your so-called mythic multicultural "Hindu society", well most Hindus don't believe Christmas and Eid to be a part of "Indian culture", whom are you trying to fool? The chief-minister of one of the largest provinces (Uttar Pradesh) in India who also happens to be a famous Yogi (Yogi Adityanath) says he is a Hindu so doesn't need to celebrate Eid,

"I am not like them because I am a Hindu and have no reason to celebrate Eid," [7]

Why is this famous Yogi insecure about his identity? Why are most Hindus so insecure that they have banned cow-slaughter and cannot tolerate others eating beef? How about you eating beef and praying five times a day? Another world-renowned Yogi Sri Sri Ravi Shankar was threatening Muslims of making India "Syria" for Indian Muslims if the Ram temple isn't built, so tolerant of Yogis! He said,

"if the court rules against a temple (in Ayodhya), there will be bloodshed in the country and India will have a Syria- like situation" [8]

Whereas the Hindu-ascetic (who also propagates practicing yoga and is a yogini) and ex-chief minister of Madhya Pradesh, Uma Bharati states,

"Declare without hesitation that this is a Hindu Rashtra. We have come to strengthen the immense Hindu shakti (power) into a fist. Do not display any love for your enemies [...] Any non-Hindu who lives here is at our mercy." [9]

Apparently, all Indian Christians, Atheists, Muslims, Sikhs are at the mercy of Hindus - what a multicultural society! I can bring more Islamophobic statements from renowned Yogis and Hindu-scholars - I've still not spoken of Hindu-scriptures!

You don't know your own religion Priya. You ask "*how does respecting sun, water or nature will threaten your existence as a Muslim*". There is a huge difference between respecting and worshiping. Almost all Hindus don't perform Salah (Namaz) does that mean they don't respect Islam and the Muslim-form of worship? Similarly, if Muslims don't perform Yoga it doesn't mean we don't respect your right to worshiping your gods in your way. Let's not bring in red-herrings and illogical statements.

Either you are a habitual liar or a typical uninformed brainwashed Hindu. You stated, "Bollywood...has shown Islam in a positive light and have only shown radicals to be for what they are." Have you ever tried researching topics and subjects you are making claims about? To quote few experts (non-Muslim) and expose your ignorance, Sanjeev Kumar,

"The role of Bollywood films in fabricating the past by creating disjunctive images of Muslims and misrepresenting their actions as anti-national, as a part of its apologia for the cultural agenda of the Hindutva forces, forms a significant component of what has been called a history war. In pursuit of its divisive engagement in this history war, Bollywood cinema has constantly perpetuated the cliché of the inherently arrogant Muslim and the supposedly tolerant Hindu." [10]

He concludes his paper stating,

"This nature of India's national cinema poses a serious challenge to its Muslim minority. This is mainly because the latter tends to encounter the dyslexia of defining its cultural space in its own homeland, which is portrayed as so alien, with its identity being established as an outsider on the silk screen." [11]

There are no Hinduphobic movies that Bollywood produces but a lot of Islamophobic and anti-Muslim movies that Bollywood every-year produces. Vivek Ranjan Agnihotri is a famous Islamophobic filmmaker - known for verbally attacking liberals and Christians as well. Do you want me to share his tweets and thoughts?

All in all, your rhetoric of I being against multiculturalism doesn't stand to the test of basic fact-checking rather your Hindu-supremacist nature and promotion of Hindu-hegemony is aptly apparent from your conjectural and uninformed comment.

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#### Notes:

[1] Meera Nanda, *The God Market: How Globalization is making India more Hindu*, (UK: Random House Group Ltd, 2009), p. 168.

[2] Janet M. Powers, *Kites over the mango tree: restoring harmony between Hindus and Muslims*, (London: Praeger Security International, 2009), p. 74.

[3] Klaus K. Klostermaier, *Hinduism: A Beginner's guide*, (Oxford: Oneworld Publications, 2007), p.196.

[4] <https://thewire.in/210464/anantkumar-hegde-devanoora-mahadeva-response/>

[5] *Srimad Bhagvatam*, (4.19.26), (California: The Bhaktivedanta Book Trust, 1974), p.750.

[6] *Srimad Bhagvatam*, (4.11.18), (California: The Bhaktivedanta Book Trust, 1974), p.598.

[7] <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/lucknow/im-a-hindu-no-need-to-celebrate-eid-yogi-adityanath/articleshow/63195659.cms>

[8] <https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/case-against-sri-sri-ravi-shankar-over-alleged-anti-muslim-remarks-1821605>

[9] Cited in T Blom Hansen, *The Saffron Wave: Democracy and Hindu Nationalism in Modern India*, Princeton, (NJ: Princeton University Press, 1999), p 180.

[10] Sanjeev Kumar HM, "Constructing the Nation's Enemy: Hindutva, popular culture and the Muslim 'other' in Bollywood cinema," *Third World Quarterly*, Vol. 34, No. 3, (May, 2013):462.

[11] *ibid*, (May, 2013):468.